Message Text

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UNCLAS GENEVA 9959

FOR AMB SCHAUFELE FROM WISNER

LONDON FOR SEITZ

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR RH UK

SUBJ: RHODESIA CONFERENCE: CLOSING STATEMENT BY THE PATRIOTIC FRONT

BEFORE DEPARTING GENEVA, THE PATRIOTIC FRONT DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

BEGIN TEXT

1. WHEN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON ZIMBABEW WAS CONVENED SEVEN WEEKS AGO, THE PATRIOTIC FRONT DEFINED ITS POSITION AND OBJECTIVES QUITE CLEARLY. THESE WERE:

A. THAT THE CONFERENCE WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE ARMED LIBERATION STRUGGLE BEING WAGED BY THE PATRIOTIC FRONT;

B. THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT REGARDED THE CONFERENCE AS BETWEEN TWO PARTIES ONLY: THE STRUGGLING PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE ON THE ONE HAND AND THE COLONISERS OF OUR COUNTRY ON THE OTHER:

C. THAT THE OBJECTIVE OF THE CONFERENCE HAD SOLELY TO BE THE TRANSFER OF POWER FROM THE MINORITY RACISTS TO UNCLASSIFIED

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THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE;

- D. THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT REJECTED TOTALLY THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN FOR RHODESIA WHICH PURPORTED TO LEAD TO MAJORITY RULE WHEN IN FACT IT WAS AN IMPERIALIST CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE:
- E. THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM SHOULD CARRY OUT ITS FULL RESPONSIBILITY OF DECOLONISING S. RHODESIA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE;
- F. THAT THERE CAN BE NO ABANDONMENT OF THE ARMED LIBERATION STRUGGLE UNTIL THE TOTAL TRANSFER OF POWER.
- 2. ON THE BASIS OF THIS POSITION THE PATRIOTIC FRONT PARTICIPATED IN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE WITH A DETERMINATION TO MAKE IT SUCCEED.
- 3. IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT DEDICATED TO THE GENUINE INDEPENDENCE OF ZIMBABWE THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT FIRMLY INSISTED
- A. THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM FIX A DEFINITE AND UNEQUIVOCAL DATE FOR ZIMBABWE TO BECOME INDEPENDENT WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS:
- B. THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT GIVE A CATEGORICAL COMMITMENT TO DECOLONISING RHODESIA WITHIN THAT PERIOD.
- 4. IN THE COURSE OF THE SEVEN WEEKS THE PATRIOTIC FRONT, THROUGH ITS FIRM STAND, HAS MANAGED
- A. TO GET THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT TO THE INDEPENDENCE OF ZIMBABWE COMING EVEN BY THE 1ST DECEMBER, 1977;
- B. TO EXPOSE AND CRUSH THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN WHICH WAS DESIGNED TO HOODWINK THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE INTO ACCEPTING A PUPPET REGIME FOR THEIR INDEPENDENCE AS PROVED BY CROSLAND'S CONFESSION THAT THE OBJECTIVE OF THE CONFERENCE WAS TO CREATE A "MODERATE" AND THEREFORE UNCLASSIFIED

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REACTIONARY REGIME IN ZIMBABWE. ON THIS WE HAVE IRREFUTABLE DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE REVEALING THE BRITISH AND U.S. MOTIVES. IT IS TRAGIC THAT SOME SO-CALLED NATIONALIST LEADERS ARE FALLING FOR THIS DANGLING IMPERIALIST CARROT;

C. TO EXPOSE THAT AN "INQUIRY" RATHER THAN A CONFERENCE WAS BEING CONDUCTED;

- 5. THE PATRIOTIC FRONT REAFFIRMS ITS ORIGINAL STAND ON THE CONDITIONS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE TRANSFER OF POWER. IN CONSULTATIONS DURING RECESS AND AT THE RESUMPTION OF DISCUSSIONS IN GENEVA IN JANUARY, THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WILL ASSERT ITS STAND MORE VIGOUROUSLY TO ENSURE THE TOTAL DEFEAT OF ANY FURTHER CONSPIRACIES TO INSTALL A PUPPET REGIME IN ZIMBABWE AND GUARANTEE THE ADVENT OF GENUINE INDEPENDENCE TO ZIMBABWE THROUGH STRUGGLE AND SACRIFICE.
- 6. OUR STAND CONTINUES TO BE THAT ANY ARRANGEMENTS FOR A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT MUST ENABLE THAT TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TO DRAW AN INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION WHICH IS IN THE REAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE. IT MUST BE AN EFFECTIVE DECISION-MAKING MACHINERY AS TO
- A. THE TERMS OF THE INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION;
- B. THE SMOOTH PASSAGE TO INDEPENDENCE WITHOUT BUILT-IN OBSTRUCTIONS OR IMPEDIMENTS;
- C. THE DAY-TO-DAY GOVERNMENT.

FOR THESE REASONS, REAL POWER, AS RELATED TO THE MINISTRIES WHICH CONTROL ESSENTIAL PROCESSES TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE MUST BE IN THE HANDS OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT. THERE CAN BE NO QUESTION OF POWER SHARING.

7. THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AS A DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT HAS ALWAYS STOOD FOR FREE ELECTIONS BASED ON ONE MAN ONE VOTE. AT THE SAME TIME THE PATRIOTIC FRONT MAINTAINS THAT SUCH ELECTIONS IF THEY ARE TO REFLECT THE WILL OF UNCLASSIFIED

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THE PEOPLE CAN ONLY BE CONDUCTED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF AN ESTABLISHED INTERIM GOVERNMENT AND UNDER THE CANOPY OF THE SMITH REGIME AS IS BEING SUGGESTED BY CERTAIN REACTIONARY AND OPPORTUNISTIC ELEMENTS IN ZIMBABWE.

- 8. THE PATRIOTIC FRONT OPPOSES ANY BRITISH ROLE DURING THE INTERIM PERIOD THAT EXCEEDS THE MINIMUM PARTICIPATION OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT REQUIRED TO SET IN MOTION THE PROCESS OF DECOLONISATION.
- 9. WE ARE PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL TO THE "FRONTLINE" STATES OF ANGOLA, BOTSWANA, MOZAMBIQUE, TANZANIA AND ZAMBIA WHICH HAVE REMAINED STEADFASTLY AT OUR SIDE THROUGHOUT THIS FIRST PART OF THE ATTEMPT TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF ZIMBABWE. WE ARE EQUALLY GRATEFUL TO MEMBERS

OF THE O.A.U. AND OTHER SUPPORTING COUNTRIES WHICH CONTINUE TO STAND BY OUR SIDE.

10. THE PATRIOTIC FRONT IS THERE TO STAY TO REALISE THE NATIONAL OBJECTIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE IN PARTICULAR NATIONAL UNITY AND NATIONAL LIBERATION THROUGH INTENSIFICATION OF THE ARMED LIBERATION STRUGGLE.

THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WISHES TO MAKE IT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE CONFERENCE HAS BEEN BROUGHT ABOUT THE FAILURE OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND ITS PROTEGT THE RHODESIAN RACIST REGIME TO COME OUT WITH ANY CONCRETE PROPOSALS FOR A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT.

YET THE PATRIOTIC FRONT ON THEIR PART PRESENTED CONCRETE PROPOSALS WITH A TIMETABLE DESIGNED TO BRING ABOUT THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE CONFERENCE BY DECEMBER 20 AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED.

END TEXT.CATTO

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